GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5291
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2001
MAINTENANCE OF LAKES AND RIVERS
ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided funds for maintenance and beautification of lakes and rivers in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievements made in this regard during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a)&(b) A statement is at annexure.

ANNEXURE

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha UnstarredQuestion No. 5291 for replyon 23.4.2001 regarding Maintenance of Lakes and Rivers

(a) & (b) The National Lake Conservation Planfor conservation of 10 urban lakes including Dal and Nagin Lakes in Srinagar was considered by Government on 29.12.1997 when it directed that the proposal be brought up for consideration after a fresh appraisal of the scheme in the light of a firm tie up of external financial assistance for financing National Lake Conservation Plan.However, Government simultaneously approved, in principle, the proposal to take up the scheme for conservation of the Dal Lake and decided that an amount upto Rs. 20 crore may be spent on land acquisition which are considered absolutely necessary by way of advance action for speedy implementation of the scheme in so far as it relates to the Dal Lake. An amount of Rs. 75 crore has been released during the period from 1997-98 till date by the Planning Commission as additional central assistance through the Annual Plan of Jammu and Kashmir for conservation of Dal and Nagin Lakes. A Detailed Project Report for conservation and managementof the Dal and Nagin Lakes has been prepared atan estimated cost of Rs. 162.87 crore(without land cost component). An amount of Rs. 1.20 crore has been spent on the preparation of this report which has been sent for the comments of the state government on 14th November, 2000. In addition, an amount of Rs. 0.76 crore has been released during the last three years for conservation and management of Wullar Lake under a separate scheme called conservation of wetlands. The activities undertaken for Wullar Lake management include catchment area treatment, soil conservation, dweeding and desilting.

The Jammu and Kashmir Government submitted a pre-feasibility report in December, 1997 on the pollution abatement of river Jhelum in four towns namely, Anantnag, Srinagar, Sopore and Baramulla at an estimated cost of Rs.284.42 crore. An amount of Rs. 5 lakhs was released in February, 1998 to Jammu & Kashmir Lakes and Waterways Development Authority for preparation of thispre-feasibility report. The proposal was returned to the state government for their comments in June, 1998 as it was not found sustainable in view of the high cost of operation and maintenance.